



## Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2014)

<b>Project Ref No</b>	19-013
<b>Project Title</b>	<i>Research to policy - building capacity for conservation through poverty alleviation (R2P)</i>
<b>Country(ies)</b>	Uganda
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	<i>International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED)</i>
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	<i>Institute of Tropical Forest Conservation (ITFC), Jane Goodall Institute Uganda (JGI-U), Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB)</i>
<b>Project Leader</b>	<i>Dilys Roe</i>
<b>Report date and number (eg HYR3)</b>	<i>October 2014 HY3</i>
<b>Project website</b>	<i><a href="http://www.iied.org/uganda-conserving-bwindi-impenetrable-national-park-reducing-local-poverty">http://www.iied.org/uganda-conserving-bwindi-impenetrable-national-park-reducing-local-poverty</a></i>

### **1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to end September).**

Members of the Uganda Poverty and Conservation Learning (U-PCLG) have been undertaking activities in their [year three project work plan](#) to advocate for the key outcomes of their Theory of Change for improved ICD at Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.

#### **1. More Revenue Shared More Fairly and Responding to Locally Agreed Priorities**

##### **1.1 Community-based monitoring of Revenue Sharing at Bwindi is revived**

ITFC leads this activity based in three park-adjacent parishes in the Kisoro District of Bwindi. ITFC consulted the Kisoro NGO forum to gain lessons learnt from previous community-based monitoring schemes and developed a community monitoring datasheet, which was reviewed by U-PCLG members, IIED and ACODE. ITFC is now refining the datasheet and will work with local monitors to assess whether revenue sharing at Bwindi has adhered to the new national guidelines on revenue sharing, which the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) adopted in 2010.

##### **1.2 Increased community share of the gorilla permit fees**

The greatest success was achieved with this activity, which is led by Panta Kasoma (U-PCLG Chairman) with support from IIED and ACODE. Panta followed-up U-PCLG's request to UWA for an increase in the community share of the Mountain gorilla permit from US\$5 to US\$10, and ACODE prepared a [policy memo](#) that presented a detailed case for the increase. In October, the UWA Board accepted the increase, which needs to be formally ratified by the Board although is expected to come into effect from July 2015. This marks a tremendous achievement firstly by the project team in ensuring that the research was a collaborative effort by all project partners and stakeholders and closely linked with subsequent actions for change. Secondly by the U-PCLG, being a recently formed group that is evidently empowered from the capacity-building of this project and working together extremely effectively.

#### **2. Levels of unresolved human wildlife conflict reduced**

##### **2.1 An effective monitoring mechanism on the extent that revenue sharing is reducing HWC that is formally endorsed by Bwindi stakeholders**

U-PCLG members completed a gap analysis of the 2010 Revenue Sharing Guidelines and UWA's Revenue Sharing Monitoring datasheet for Bwindi. The group identified a number of issues with the guidelines and datasheet and are now seeking clarity from UWA on these issues.

### **3. Better access to sustainable resource use based on needs**

#### **3.1 Increased harvest quota & frequency of existing resources that local people can harvesting sustainably under Multiple Use Programme**

The group combined data from this research with ITFC's research on authorised harvesting of park resources by local people, under Bwindi's Multiple Use Programme (MUP). They drafted a letter to UWA to increase harvest quotas and national park access for local MUP members, which was based on scientific evidence and the wider arguments in terms maintaining and strengthening park – community relations. The group then discussed with ACODE which advocacy approach would be most effective in securing this increase. Based on ACODE's advice and with ACODE's support, ITFC is now working with MUP members in the local communities for the request to be made directly by local people to UWA.

### **4. More jobs for local people**

#### **4.1 A clear understanding among key stakeholders (PCLG, UWA, private sector, communities, Local Government, local civil society etc) of the employment situation around Bwindi**

Stephen Asuma (International Gorilla Conservation Programme; IGCP) completed a study on park-related jobs undertaken by local people of Bwindi. He found that 72.5% of local people in park-related jobs are from parishes adjacent to the national park, but of these, 75% are male and the majority are Mukiga whereas few women or ethnic minorities are employed. Stephen also examined constraints faced by employers and, as he is now undertaking the Conservation Leadership Masters in Cambridge, his IGCP replacement is finalising the study and report.

All of the above work was presented by U-PCLG members at the [U-PCLG meeting](#) on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Other project updates are as follows:

#### **Capacity building**

In addition to supporting U-PCLG members on the activities above, ACODE produced a guidance note on current revisions to the Wildlife Act 2000 in Uganda and opportunities for U-PCLG members to influence that process. This is being finalised before publication. Mark Infield also joined the project team in August, as a consultant to IIED, to provide in-country support to U-PCLG members. Mark's extensive experience in community conservation in Uganda is an excellent addition to the team, especially now as U-PCLG members progress their advocacy activities for improved ICD. His involvement is funded through the existing project budget line for consultancies.

#### **Launch of R2P Research Report**

Publication of the [R2P Research Report](#) in August was supported by a [blog](#), [article](#) and tweets by IIED and Imperial College. On 18<sup>th</sup> September, Nature Uganda hosted an [event to launch the R2P Research Report](#) in Kampala. The event was well attended, featured presentations by Mariel Harrison (the Imperial Masters student involved in the research) and Medard Twinamatsiko (ITFC), and was supported by a [press release](#). Hard copies of the report have been distributed in both Uganda and the UK.

#### **Bwindi Stakeholder Workshop**

Preparations are underway for the workshop, which is planned for 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015 and to be held at ITFC's research centre at Bwindi.

#### **ICD Implementation Guidance**

Developments of the ICD Implementation Guidance continued with plans to launch it at UWA Headquarters in Kampala after the Bwindi Stakeholder Workshop in January 2015.

#### **Developing research capacity of Ugandan partners**

This continued with support for Stephen Asuma to secure a place on (and funding for) the Cambridge University Conservation Leadership Masters, which he started in October 2014.

**2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

No notable problems encountered. By the nature of U-PCLG's advocacy activities, some activities in their work plan have changed as they progressed their work (for example as mentioned above, the letter to UWA requesting increased park resource harvesting will now be direct from local people). Any such changes are decided by U-PCLG members with support from IIED and ACODE, and made in order to achieve the outcomes of their Theory of Change.

**2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?**

Discussed with LTS: N/A

Formal change request submitted: N/A

Received confirmation of change acceptance N/A

**3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?**

Yes  No  Estimated underspend: £

**3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully as it is unlikely that any requests to carry forward funds will be approved this year.** Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project and would like to talk to someone about the options available this year, please indicate below when you think you might be in a position to do this and what the reasons might be:

**4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?**

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also** be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.

Please send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at [Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk](mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk). The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 20-035 Darwin Half Year Report**